Collaboration for Ecosystem Planning

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Ch 7 Mod 1

Module Objective

- **To provide a review of origins of collaborative planning and current policies in that regard.**
- **To acquaint the student with the origin and function of national partnerships and Memorandums of Agreements with agencies, non-governmental organizations and other federal programs supporting collaborative ecosystem restoration activities of the Corps of Engineers.**

Some History of Collaboration

- Innovative feature of NEPA legislation.
  - Embodied in CEQ Guidelines 40CFR 1501.6 (Cooperating Agencies) ,1500.5 (Reducing Delay), 1501.7 (Scoping) and 1502.25(Consultation)
- Consulting is a component of FWCA and ESA and other environmental legislation .
- WRDA 1986 -50% Cost Share for non Federal Sponsors expanded need for collaborative project development
- EC 1105-2-409 May 2005 Planning in a Collaborative Environment.
- PMBP 2003 created a collaborative forum in its promotion of Project Implementation Team concepts

Collaborative Planning

- ***ER 1105-2-100 Appendix B - c. Collaboration.*** **Collaboration occurs when the Corps works jointly with other agencies or entities throughout the planning process. Collaboration is distinguished from coordination through the active involvement of the parties in conducting studies and or implementing recommended projects. Collaborative efforts can range from participation on interagency study teams, joint funding of construction, and the operation or maintenance of water resource projects.**

EC 1105-2-409 Planning in a Collaborative Environment

- Collaborative Water Shed Studies may exceed 3 year rule
- Broadens Scope of Corps' Federal Interest to allow aspects not within Corp Mission
- Alternatives having on balance net beneficial benefits under P& G can be selected
- EC is out of date but policy issues expected to be included in P&G revisions

Benefits of Collaboration

- **Better Information. Engaging relevant expertise can lead to a more informed decisions.**
- **Fairer Process. Expands interests involved in planning process.**
- **Better Integration. Sharing of ideas and opinions can enhance integration and coordination.**
- **Conflict Prevention. Surfaces differences as they arise thus limiting conflict.**
- **Improved Fact-Finding. Joint fact- finding, monitoring, adaptive management can promote common understanding.**
- **Increased Social Capital. Builds trust between parties who may work together on other projects.**
- **Reduced Litigation. Including key stakeholders early can promote problems solving at the lowest possible levels.**

(Collaboration in NEPA *A Handbook for NEPA Practitioners* Oct 2007)

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

With whom does one collaborate?

Federal Agencies

Agency Missions:

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - provides engineering services and construction support to develop, manage, and protect the country's water resources.**
- **National Marine Fisheries Service-conservation of living marine resources, protection of marine mammals and endangered marine species and the habitats on which they depend.**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - conserve, protect and enhance the nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Major public trust responsibilities include migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, anadromous fish and Service lands.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- safeguard public health, welfare and the environment through the protection and improvement of natural resources.

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service- provide leadership and administer programs to help people conserve, improve and sustain our natural resources and environment (soil science/small watershed).**
- **United States Geological Service- provide scientific information to describe and understand the Earth, minimize natural disasters, manage resources and enhance and protect quality of life.**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Interagency Cooperation.**
  - **Prominent feature of Environmental Regula**
    - **Cultural Resources.**
    - **Essential Fish Habi**
    - **Fish & Wildlife Coordination.**
    - **Endangered Species**
    - **Prime & Unique Farm Lands.**
    - **NEPA**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Interagency Cooperation (cont).**
  - **Respect for the views of others. (EOP # 7)**
  - **We are one US government delivering services to states and communities.**
  - **Benefits other relationships!**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Partnership Development.**
  - **Communicate early and often.**
  - **Coordinate site visits.**
  - **Identify joint interests and capabilities.**
  - **Promote staff-level inter-agency relationships.**
  - **Defined by Project Delivery Team Charter.**
    - **PMBP**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Partnership Value.**
  - **Essential for successful projects.**
  - **Embodied in the Project Management Business Process (PMBP).**
  - **All projects are partnerships**
  - **Basis of Coastal America,**

  and NGO MOUs such as TNC/DU/NHCS and others.

What law embodies this concept as cooperating

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- ***Coastal America.***
  - **Originated in 1992.**
  - **Total of 12 Agencies.**
  - **http://www.CoastalAmeri**
  - **Purpose:**

Protect, Preserve and Restore America's Coastal Heritage

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Federal partners include:**
  - **Department of Housing and Urban Development.**
  - **Department of Energy.**
  - **Department of Transportation.**
  - **Department of the Air Force.**
  - **Council on Environmental Quality.**

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- Federal Partners (cont):
  - –Department of the Army.
  - –Army Corps of Engineers.
  - –Department of the Navy.
  - –Department of Commerce

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

- **Programs of Coastal America.**
  - **Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers.**
    - ***22 aquaria throughout the nation.***
  - **Innovative Readiness Training.**
    - ***Military Mission Essential Task Lis***
  - **National Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (Local Cost sharing $$$!).**
    - ***Private/Public Collaboration.***

CWRP
Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Collaborative Efforts for Ecosystem Restoration

Regional Teams:

Partnership Award

Elders Point, **Jamaica Bay Salt Marsh Islands**

Awards Recipients

Federal Partners

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

National Parks Service

Natural Resource Conservation Service

National Marine Fisheries Service

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Port Authority of New York New Jersey

New York State Department of State

NRCS/USACE Partnership Agreement Overview

US Army
Corps of Engineers

Partnership Agreement

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service
Provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

- **Signed July 7, 2005**
  - **George S. Dunlop ASA**
  - **Bruce I. Knight Chief, NRCS**
- **Re-established liaison positions October 2006**
  - **Overarching Goal**
    - **"To promote a long term working relationship between NRCS and USACE"**
- **The Relationship has not been as active as was planned.**

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Partnership Goals

- **Mutual support of Cooperative Conservation**
- **Initial Collaborative Efforts:**
  - **-Watershed planning and implementation**
  - **-Wetland creation, restoration, and enhancement**
  - **-Natural disaster recovery**
- **Support and encourage field implementation teams**

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
And
Wetland Mitigation

http://www.ducks.org/AboutDU/

Memorandum of Understanding

- **July 22, 2002**
  - **Dominic Izzo ASA**
  - **D.A. Young Executive Vice President DU**
- **PURPOSE: Foundation for Collaboration**
  - **Encourage Water Management benefiting Natural Communities while meeting Human needs**
  - **Foster Wetland Protection**
  - **Foster Demo Projects**
  - **Promote gathering and sharing of Scientific Information**

Ducks Unlimited's Mission

Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl.

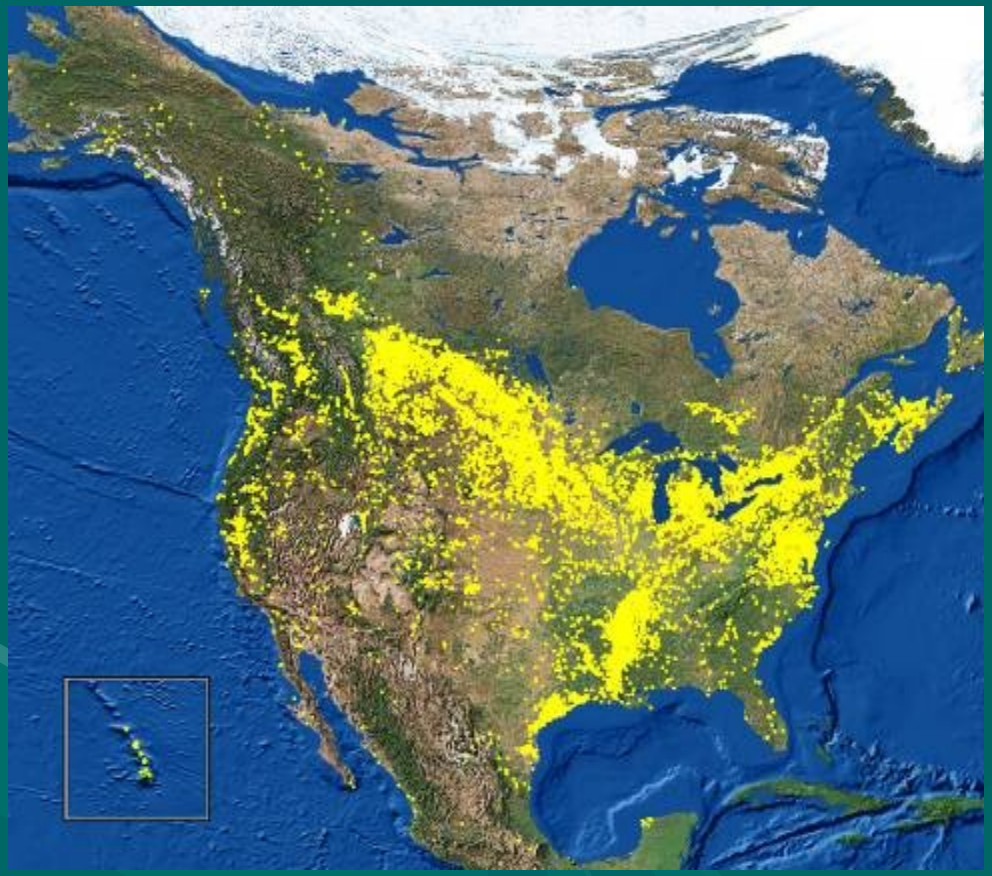
These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people!

Ducks Unlimited

- 774,000 Members
- 50,000 Volunteers
- 600 Employees

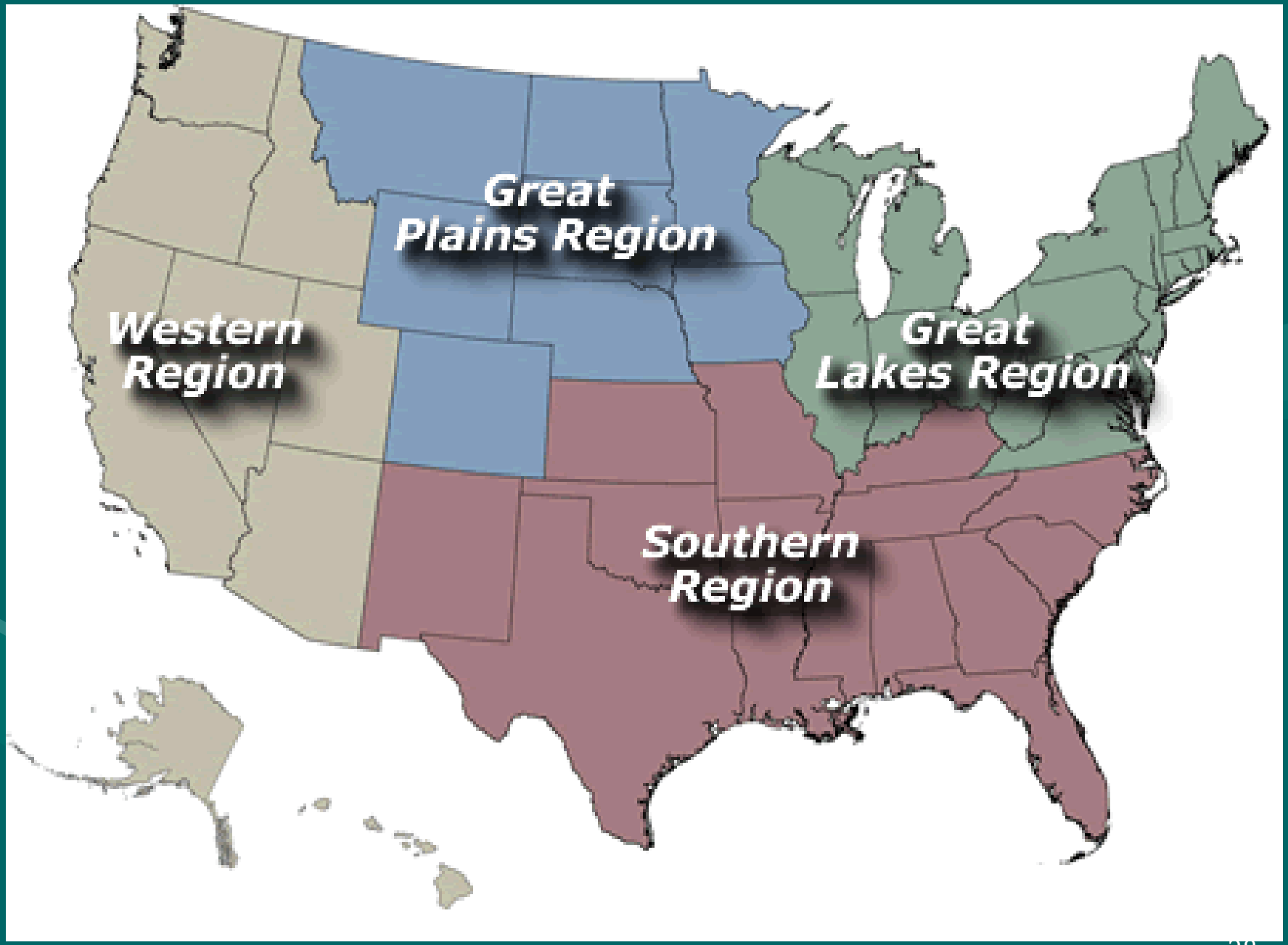
"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." ~ Mead

Ducks Unlimited



- 12M acres conserved
- Federal, state, local – public and private partners!

It takes strong and diverse partnerships to restore wetland


Great
Plains Region
Western
Region
Great
Lakes Region
Southern
Region

TNC-ACOE Opportunities for Collaboration

The Nature Conservancy's Mission

To preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

Organizational Structure

- **Programs in 30 Countries and expanding**
- **‘Headquarters’ in Arlington, Virginia**
- **Eight Conservation Regions**
- **Chapter Offices in all 50 States**
- **~3200 staff (>700 scientists)**

Conservation By Design

- **A strategic, science based approach called *Conservation by Design,* which identifies the highest-priority places – landscapes and seascapes that, if conserved, ensure the diversity of life on Earth over the long term.**
- **Complements the Corps approach to protect and preserve most threatened resources based on national significance criteria.**

Conservation Planning

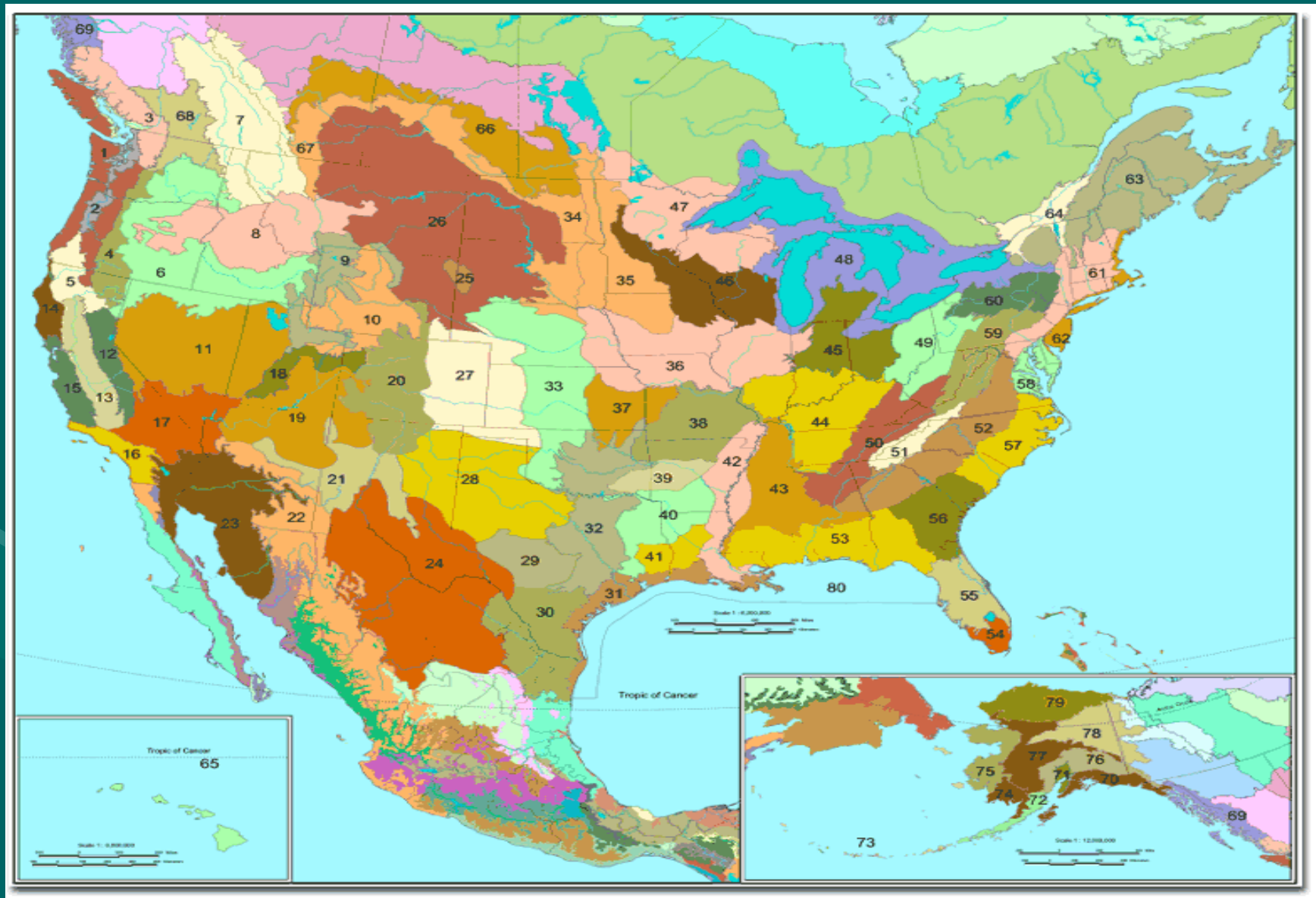
Accomplishments

- **Protected 15 million acres of habitat**
- **Safe guard another 102 million acres around the world**
- **Top 15 charitable institutions as measured by private funds raised.**
- **400 offices worldwide**
- **Helped to mobilize billions of dollars in public funds for conservation purposes**

Memorandum of Understanding

- **National Partnership MOU December 14, 2000**
  - **Dr. Joseph W. Westphal ASA**
  - **W. William Weeks Executive Vice-President**
- **November, 2005 the ACE NAD and TNC EUSCR signed a regional Partnership MOU**
  - **Several regional MOU are in place**

Ecoregions in the USA



The Nature Conservancy and US Army Corps of Engineers Partnership Sites

The Nature Conservancy

US Army Corps of Engineers

Puget Sound Nearshore Marine Habitat Restoration Study, WA - General Investigation

Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration Program, WA - Independent Program

Camp Creek - Zumwalt Prairie Preserve, OR - Section 206

Willamette River Basin, OR - Sustainable Rivers

Redwood Creek, CA - General Investigation

Hamilton City Flood Control Study/ Multipurpose Project, CA - Construction General

Truckee Meadows Flood Control Project, NV General Investigation

Bill Williams River, AZ - Sustainable Rivers

Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Program, IA, KS, MO, MT, ND, NE, SD Independent Program

Yellowstone River Corridor, MT General Investigation

Intake Diversion Dam Fish Passage, MT Independent Program

Spunky Bottoms, IL - Section 1135

Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Mgmt. Program, IA, IL, MN, MO, WI Independent Program

Lower Cache River- Buttonland Swamp, IL Section 206

Lower Cache River and Big Creek Watershed, IL Section 206

Emiquon Preserve, IL - Section 206

Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence Water Management, NY General Investigation

Delaware Basin Ecologically Sustainable Water Management, NY Section 22, Planning Assistance to States

West River, VT - Sustainable Rivers

Penobscot River Restoration, ME General Investigation

Ashuelot River, NH - Sustainable Rivers

Connecticut River Watershed Study, CT, MA, NH, VT General Investigation

Cuddebackville Dam Removal Project, NY Section 206 - Complete

Fire Island to Montauk Point Reformulation Plan (FIMP), NY General Investigation

Middle Potomac River Watershed, MD, VA General Investigation

Chain Bridge Flats Restoration, DC, MD Section 1135

Virginia Coastal Bays Ecosystem Restoration, VA Section 206

Village of Oyster Ecosystem Restoration, VA Section 1135

Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery, MD, VA Independent Program

Roanoke River, NC, VA - Sustainable Rivers

Clinch Valley Program, VA - General Investigation

Savannah River Project, GA, SC - Sustainable Rivers

Bootheel Creek Project, FL - Section 206

South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration, FL - Independent Program

Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program, FL - Independent Program

Jim Woodruff Lock and Dam Fish Passage, FL Section 1135

White River, AR - Sustainable Rivers

Big Cypress Bayou - Caddo Lake, TX Sustainable Rivers

Moses Lake Shoreline Restoration, TX Section 206

Mad Island Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, TX Section 206

Green River, KY - Sustainable Rivers

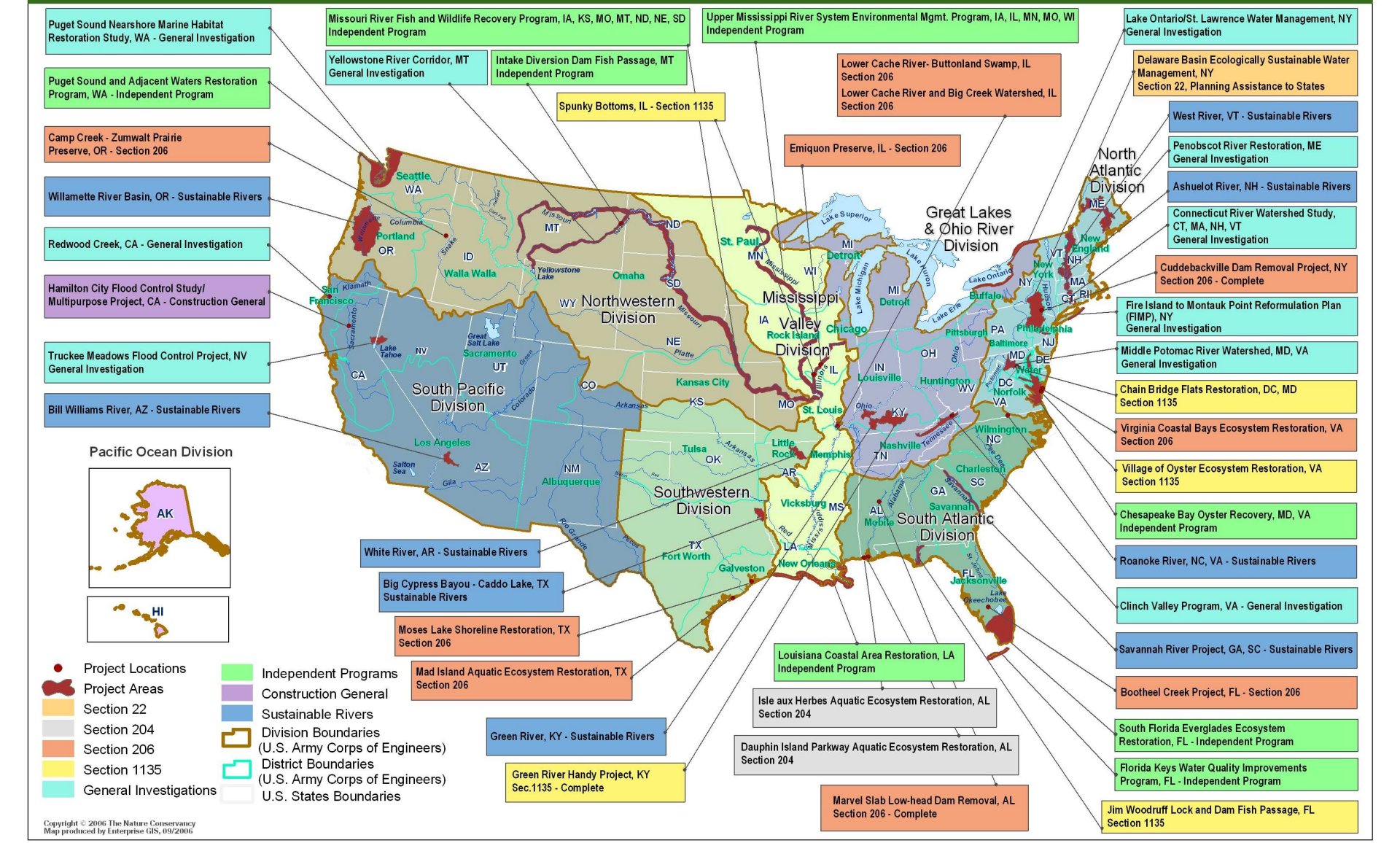
Green River Handy Project, KY Sec.1135 - Complete

Louisiana Coastal Area Restoration, LA Independent Program

Isle aux Herbes Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, AL Section 204

Dauphin Island Parkway Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, AL Section 204

Marvel Slab Low-head Dam Removal, AL Section 206 - Complete



- Project Locations
- Project Areas
- Section 22
- Section 204
- Section 206
- Section 1135
- General Investigations
- Independent Programs
- Construction General
- Sustainable Rivers
- Division Boundaries (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- District Boundaries (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- U.S. States Boundaries

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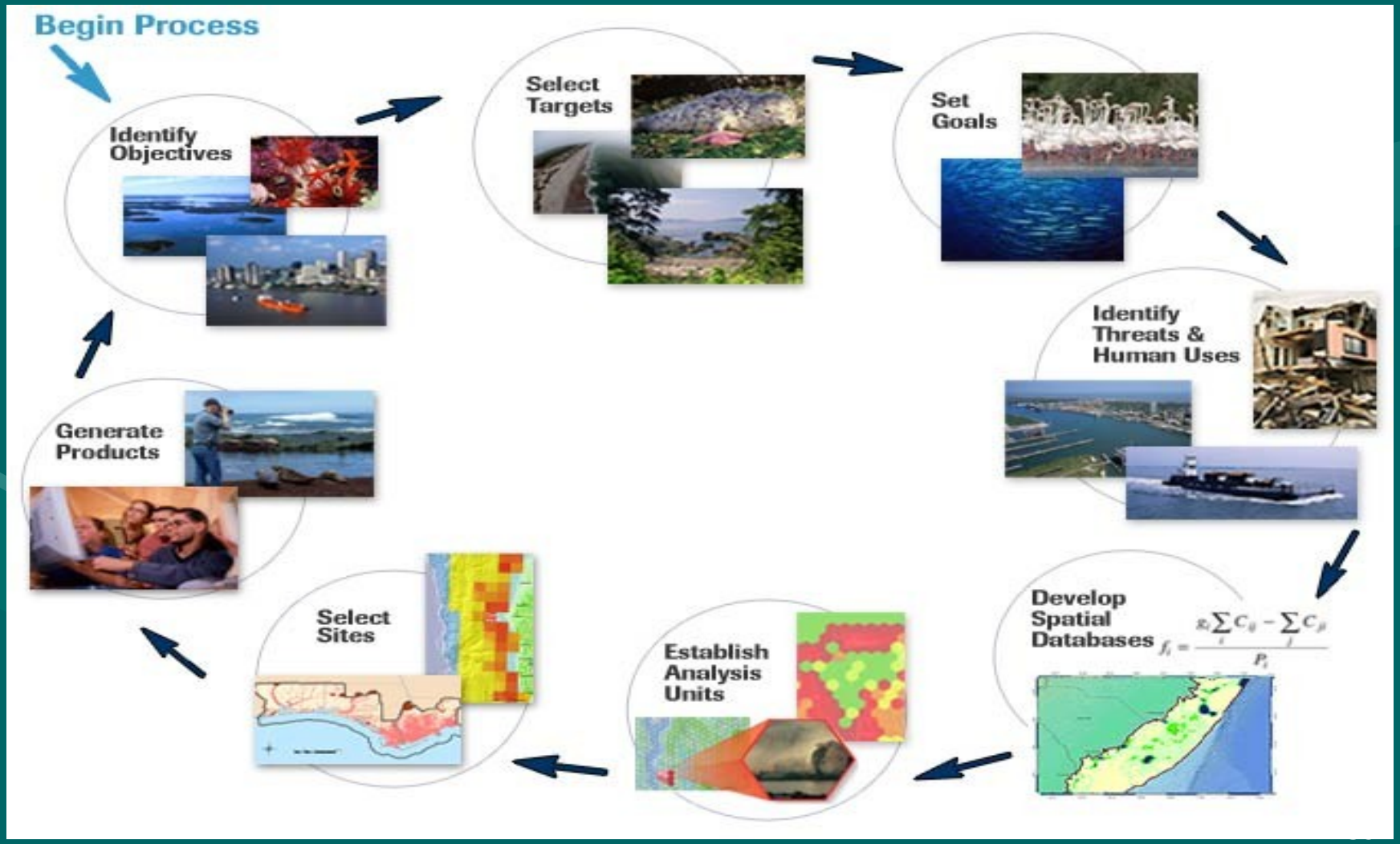
2015 Goal

By 2015, The Nature Conservancy will work with others to ensure the effective conservation of places that represent at least 10%* of every Major Habitat Type on Earth.

Marine Ecoregional Planning



Sustainable Rivers Project

Objectives…

- **Advance The Nature Conservancy's conservation goals and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' mission in ecosystem restoration within the context of the national Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).**
- **Export to additional projects the lessons learned from the Corps-TNC collaboration on re-operating the Green River Dam (Kentucky) for ecosystem improvement.**
- **Analyze successes, problems, and solutions f ng Corps dams to ach ore ustainable flows, whil ing**

The Nature Conservancy
SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Sustainable Rivers Project

Current Sites

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

US Army Corps of Engineers

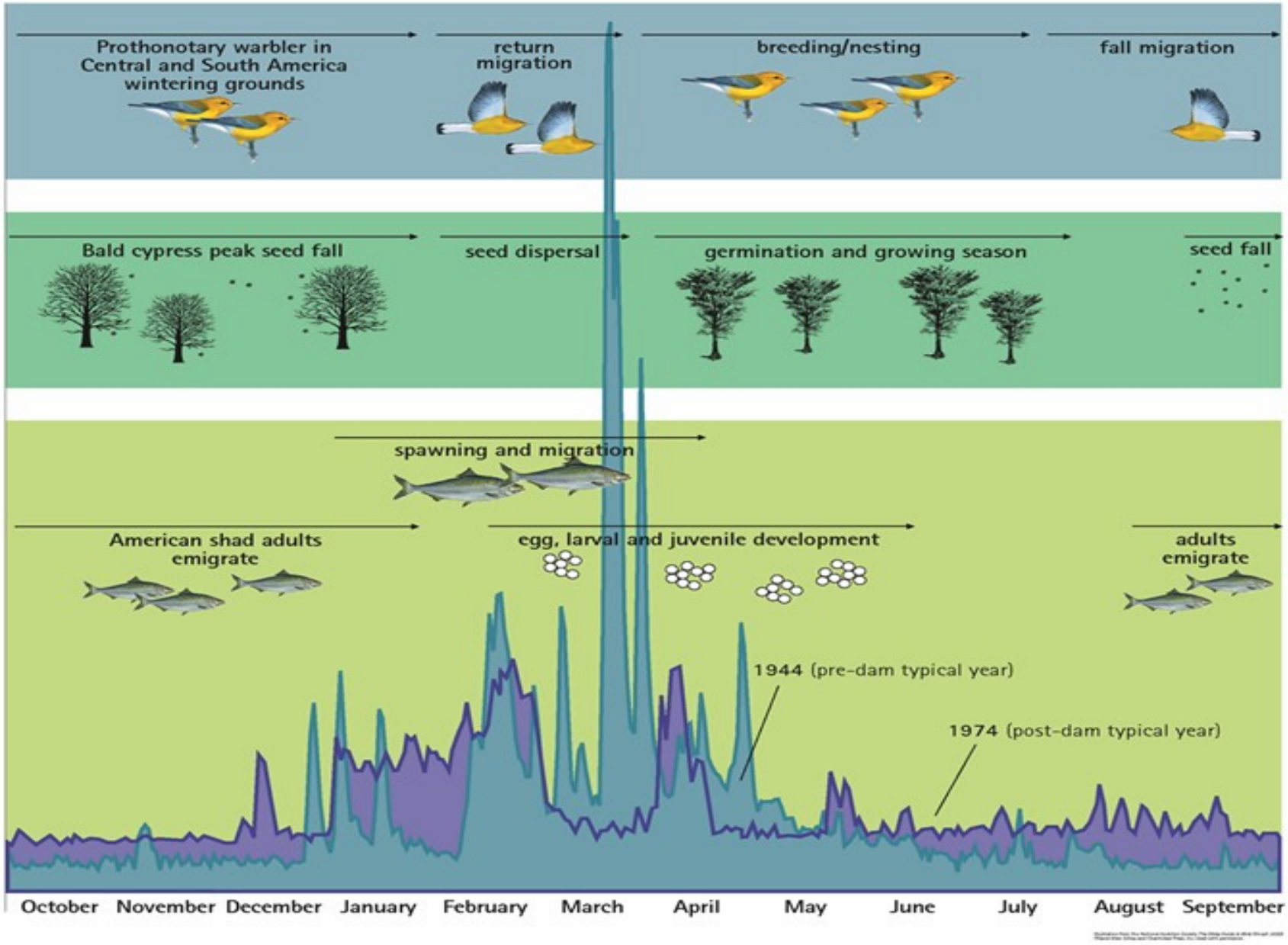
Legend

- Sustainable Rivers Project sites
- ACOE Divisions
- ACOE Districts

Goal of Ecosystem Flow Recommendations

The goal is *not* to create optimal conditions for all species all of the time; rather, we want to create adequate conditions for all native species *enough* of the time.

Ecological Model of the Savannah River



Savannah River Status

- ✓ E-flows defined (*<1 year; $90,000*)
- ✓ E-flows (partially) implemented
- ✓ Monitoring/research t support adaptive management
- ✓ Modeling (*HEC-ResSi HEC-EFM*)
- ✓ Redefined the enginee scientist relationship
- ✓ Helping to guide real-

Sustainable Rivers

"The Nature Conservancy is one of our most important partners and the *Sustainable Rivers Project,* with its nation-wide focus, is at the forefront of our collaborations."

Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock
51st Chief of Engineers

- **Demonstration Sites**
- Staff sharing (IPAs and internships)
- Joint training (HEC and globally)
- Joint software development
- National Meetings *(every ~18 months)*
- Coordinated communications and joint publications

Questions

- What branch of the government do we work for?
- Why are there different agencies in the federal budget?
- What are some of the collaborative efforts in your district? Community?
- Have you conducted coordinated site visits and have they been helpful?
- What agencies do you interface with on a project?
- How can you use the FWCA to collaborate?